

1 of 1+



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WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources**Lake Whatcom EIS Comments**

Report Date: 10/13/2003

Organization	Name	E-Mail	Address	Date
	Jonathan Burkham	jmburkham@hotmail.com	Bellingham, WA, 98225	09/30/2003
Comments:	I appreciate the encouragement of public comment on this extremely important issue. I hope that such comments will truly be considered, as they should in a democratic society. The "preferred alternative" is short-sited and at its core fails to recognize the importance of preserving the Lake Whatcom watershed for future generations. It is not a precautionary measure, rather it is a reaction to public pressure. And as such, it is a compromise. I recognize the complexities of this compromise, I understand that the money generated for logging is important for the state and county, particularly in times of budgetary shortfalls. However, the future of a community's water source should never be compromised. I ask you to ask yourselves, will this alternative enable the preservation of this resource indefinitely. If there is any doubt as to your certainty, as there appears to be (e.g. "The potential for impacts from roads may be reduced"), do not allow the realization of this alternative. For the sake of future generations, make the right choice.			
	Leonard Larson	private citizen		10/03/2003
Comments:				
	1304 15th S, Seattle Wa 98144			
	Steven Harper, PH.D.	steven.harper@smallplanetfoods.c	Bellingham, WA 98229	10/06/2003
Comments:	To whom it may concern: The proposed alternative for the Lake Whatcom Watershed does not address the cumulative environmental impacts and also does not seem to address the true management plan (significant logging in the first two decades) in regards to the amount of planned cutting. We need an honest listing of the amount of acres intended for cutting and a cumulative environmental assessment. The preferred alternative must also eliminate the proposed harvesting of timber on unstable ARS#1 slopes to protect the public water supply. There is a large amount of data (Oregon Studies) showing the propensity for cutting to lead to landslides. A strong interjurisdictional committee with independent scientists, funded by logging revenues, having authority to stop risky activities on unstable slopes should also be included in the preferred alternative. Logging in the watershed will increase the amount of sediment entering the lake. Monitoring is essential for understanding the impacts on the water quality. The preferred alternative must include monitoring. Finally, it does not seem wise to allow oil and gas exploration in an area supplying drinking water for 80,000 people. I ask that you do not include mineral, oil and gas leases in this area. The Lake Whatcom bill, E2SSB 6731, was passed by the legislature to protect drinking water and public safety in the Lake Whatcom watershed used as the water			

supply for 80,000 people. I am writing to ask that the DNR change their preferred alternative to address these concerns and protect our water supply.

Sincerely,

Steven Harper, Ph.D.

Citizen	Sue Parrott	parrottdv@yahoo.com	Bellingham, WA 98229	10/07/2003
Comments:	Three concerns: 1. DNR should monitor impacts of activities to streams. 2. Do not harvest on unstable slopes and do not build roads on unstable slopes. Form an interjurisdictional committee to oversee actions on DNR lands in the watershed, that can monitor and stop risky activities, such as logging on unstable slopes. 3. Please provide the actual logging plan detailed by year, and not the 200 year average.			

City of Bellingham	Bellingham City	noliver@cob.org	Bellingham, WA 98225	10/07/2003
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2 of 2+

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WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources**Lake Whatcom EIS Comments**

Report Date: 10/13/2003

Organization	Name	E-Mail	Address	Date
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Comments:	October 6, 2003			
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Doug Sutherland
Commissioner of Public Lands
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 47001,
Olympia, WA 98504-7001

Re: DEIS for the Lake Whatcom Landscape Plan

Dear Mr. Sutherland:

The Bellingham City Council appreciates the opportunity to provide comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Lake Whatcom Landscape Plan. The Preferred Alternative outlined in the DEIS does a reasonable job of incorporating environmental protection measures to protect water quality, while allowing the economic viability of the trust lands to continue. However, the City Council has several points they would like to see strengthened and/or further clarified in the final version of the plan.

1. The authority, technical expertise and stable funding requirements for the Inter-jurisdictional Committee (IJC) cannot be emphasized enough. In order to provide effective oversight to the forest practices employed in this special watershed, the IJC must have the authority to evaluate, make recommendations, and modify timber harvest plans from time to time according to the best scientific expertise available. The DNR must provide a stable funding source for this committee to retain qualified peer review experts, and make certain the IJC has the power to alter plans that would likely have detrimental impacts on the watershed.
2. The community has specifically noted concern about logging on unstable slopes. The DEIS states the Preferred Alternative allows logging on ARS #1 unstable slopes. Please change this to be consistent with the rest of the document, which states that under the preferred alternative, no logging or road construction will be allowed on unstable slopes.
3. Please do not allow any oil or gas exploration, even with diagonal drilling, in the Lake Whatcom watershed.
4. Monitoring of sediment loads in streams is essential to understand and minimize the impacts of logging and road building in the watershed. Please monitor the streams for sediments during times of DNR activities in the watershed. The City of Bellingham has invested in monitoring stream flows as part of the DOE TMDL Study now in progress. It would be helpful to capture this DNR generated data as well. recognizing that a proper

...in progress. It is critical to capture and generate data as we learn, recognizing that a proper understanding of watershed dynamics is critical for the future protection of this public water supply reservoir.

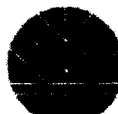
5. The financial analysis in the DEIS notes an increase in logging revenues of 68% in the first two decades over the 200 year average. Please clarify the relationship between revenue streams and logging activities in a more detailed management plan, and correlate the increase of revenues over a short period with the cumulative environmental impacts.

Thank you for your attention to these concerns. We look forward to reviewing the Final Plan, and we thank the Lake Whatcom Landscape Committee for their diligence in creating a document that will responsibly protect reservoir water quality from unnecessary degradation, as well as generate income for public benefit from this valuable and precious public resource.

Very truly yours,

3 of 3

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WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources**Lake Whatcom EIS Comments**

Report Date: 10/13/2003

Organization	Name	E-Mail	Address	Date
	Terry Bornemann, President On behalf of the Bellingham City Council			
DNR	Anne Sharar	olyanne@comcast.net	Olympia, WA 98501	10/01/2003
Comments:	This is a test to determine two things: Can my comment be submitted? Can my comment be viewed and retrieved by SEPA staff?			
dnr	barb macgregor	barbara.macgregor@wadnr.gov	lacey, wa 98503	09/30/2003
Comments:	test			
Forestry Consultant	Larry Maechler	ntimson@AOL.com	Lake Stevens, Wa. 98258	10/07/2003
Comments:	No community should exclude DNR Trust lands from harvest, and still expect to receive money for public education from the general trust fund. I can understand why local Whatcom county residents may not want to see harvest activities in their own "back yard", but, as resident of Snohomish Co., I resent the fact that timber must be harvested in my "Back yard", with proceeds from the sale of timber to be shared with my neighbors in Whatcom Co. Snohomish School Dist. is in desperate need of a second high school to handle the growing population of students, yet a higher portion of timber sale proceeds must now be diverted to Whatcom Co. to cover the shortfall in timber revenue that will surely result from this plan. If Whatcom Co. will agree to give up proceeds from DNR sales statewide, then they can keep the trees. Thank you, Larry Maechler			
Forestry Consultant	Larry Maechler	ntimson@AOL.com	Lake Stevens, Wa. 98258	10/07/2003
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If Whatcom Co. will agree to give up proceeds from DNR sales statewide, then they can keep the trees.

Thank you,
Larry Maechler

Forestry Consultant

Larry Maechler

ntimson@AOL.com

Lake Stevens, Wa. 98258

10/07/2003

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Larry Maechler
